

HOUSE JOINT RESOLUTION 1400

By Naifeh

A RESOLUTION to congratulate and honor Ryan Barrett Durham upon the occasion of his graduation from Wake Forest University.

WHEREAS, it is fitting that the members of this General Assembly should pause to pay tribute to those students who, through their natural talents and unflagging commitment to academic excellence, have distinguished themselves in the classroom; and

WHEREAS, Ryan Barrett Durham is one such exceptional student who soon will be graduating from Wake Forest University in Winston-Salem, North Carolina; and

WHEREAS, through diligent study, steady composure during examinations, and steadfast commitment of time and talent, Ryan Durham has achieved outstanding academic success and has joined the ranks of the best and brightest students in our country; and

WHEREAS, in his remarkable college career, Ryan Durham has earned an exemplary cumulative grade point average of approximately 3.112 while majoring in economics and minoring in both Chinese and political science; he has also made the Dean's List six of his eight semesters at Wake Forest; and

WHEREAS, an integral member of the global community and a valuable resource, Ryan Durham participated in an intensive language program in Beijing, China, during the summer of 2006 in order to deepen his knowledge of Mandarin Chinese and further his abilities with the language; and

WHEREAS, an esteemed leader among his peers, Ryan Durham has rendered sterling service in a number of roles. He was appointed by the Student Government President as one of two student members of the Capital Planning Committee, which reviews all physical alterations to the school campus; he served Wake Forest Student Government as Press Secretary, in which capacity he wrote weekly press releases for Student Government, attended weekly cabinet meetings to discuss and decide issues facing Student Government, and participated in the Judicial Committee's deliberations; and he distinguished himself as Secretary and Piccolo

Chair for the Pi Kappa Alpha Fraternity, recording notes at weekly chapter and executive committee meetings and organizing the annual fundraiser to benefit the Brian Piccolo Cancer Fund; and

WHEREAS, Ryan Durham has managed to accrue a veritable wealth of work experience in a variety of positions, which will surely serve him well as he begins his promising professional career. He was the Sports Editor for the school newspaper, *Old Black & Gold*; he served as a marketing intern for EchoStar Satellite in Denver, Colorado, during the summer of 2007; and he admirably performed the duties of legal intern at the Tennessee Attorney General's Office in Nashville during the summer of 2005; and

WHEREAS, in addition to his involvement in many extracurricular activities and his dedication to his studies, Ryan Durham has returned to Nashville each year of his collegiate career to serve as a college staff member for the YMCA Youth Legislature, and he has also participated as college staff in the YMCA Model United Nations Program; and

WHEREAS, in addition to his many scholastic, service, and professional accomplishments, Ryan Durham joined the Boy Scouts of America's prestigious Eagle Court of Honor as an Eagle Scout in June of 2004, an honor most befitting his unswerving integrity and his status as a valued, highly-capable member of his community; and

WHEREAS, Ryan Durham's display of intellectual aptitude and ambition surely bodes well for his future success; and

WHEREAS, Ryan Durham's noteworthy achievements are a tremendous source of pride for his family, his school, and his community; and

WHEREAS, Ryan Durham's dedication to excellence is clearly deserving of the respect, admiration, and commendation of this legislative body; now, therefore,

BE IT RESOLVED BY THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES OF THE ONE HUNDRED FIFTH GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF TENNESSEE, THE SENATE CONCURRING, that we hereby congratulate and honor Ryan Barrett Durham upon the occasion of his graduation from Wake Forest University, commend his many achievements, and extend to him our best wishes for every happiness in a future that promises to be filled with much success.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that an appropriate copy of this resolution be prepared for presentation with this final clause omitted from such copy.